



# St. Martin's Anglican Church

May 17, 2026

10:00 AM

Ascension of the Lord

Anointing

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Welcome Team: Ellen C, Darlene & Tom

Chalice Bearers: Gail H

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Pickering, but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation, continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

Celebrant: The Reverend Shelly Pollard

Prelude: Love Changes Everything

*Words and Music by Jake Espy CCLI Song # 7056919. CCLI #11469691. CCLI Streaming Licence #21657598.*

Sentence: I will not leave you desolate, says the Lord; I will come to you.

*John 14.18*

**Opening Hymn: #374 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans

are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia! he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven,  
thou on earth our food, our stay:  
alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day;  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own:  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.  
Thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great high priest:  
thou on earth both priest and victim  
in the eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant: May his grace and peace be with you.

**All: May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

**All: to you all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn: #365 Glory to God on High**

Glory to God on high,  
and peace to all on earth.

We worship you, we give you thanks,  
our heavenly King.

We give you praise,  
almighty God and Father blessed in glory bright.

Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
the Father's only Son,  
the sacrificial Lamb,  
who saves the world from sin,  
have mercy Lord.

Beside the Father's hand enthroned,  
now hear our prayer.

You only are the Lord.

You only are most high.  
You only are the holy one,  
Lord Jesus Christ.  
And now you reign  
with Father and with Spirit one  
in glorious light.

*CP 365 Glory to God on High.  
Text: Glory to God (Gloris in excelsis, Greek hymn, 200?); para. Paul Gibson (1932-) ©.  
Music: John Darwall (1731-1789).  
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## **The Collect**

**Celebrant:** Almighty God,  
your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord.  
Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of his peace,  
and bring the whole of creation  
to worship at his feet,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All:** **Amen.**

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**First Reading** ACTS 1:1-11

Reader: Alison S

### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you

will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 68:1-10, 33-36**

Celebrant: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy.

**All: For the Lord Most High is to be feared; he is the great king over all the earth.**

Celebrant: He subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

**All: He chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

Celebrant: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

**All: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

Celebrant: For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with all your skill.

**All: God reigns over the nations; God sits upon his holy throne.**

Celebrant: The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham.

**All: The rulers of the earth belong to God, and he is highly exalted.**

Celebrant: Blessed are you, God of all the earth; you have called us out of every people and nation to be a royal priesthood and citizens of

your holy city. May our words of praise call the world to turn to the joy of fellowship with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Second Reading** EPHESIANS 1:15-23

Reader: Shirley V

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel**

*Please stand in body or in spirit for the Gospel*

**Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**

*Sing A New Creation*

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

*Sing A New Creation 192*

*Music: Melody Caribbean trad.; arr John L. Bell, 1990*

*Arr. © 1190 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. CCLI Licence #11469691*

**Gospel Reading** LUKE 24:44-53

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**

*Sing A New Creation*

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

*Sing A New Creation 192*

*Music: Melody Caribbean trad.; arr John L. Bell, 1990*

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**Homily:**

The Rev Shelly Pollard

*Moment of Silent Reflection*

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All : I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Intercessor: Peter D

### **Confession & Absolution**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love  
and infinite in mercy;  
he welcomes sinners  
and invites us to his table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

### *Moment of Silence*

Celebrant: Most merciful God,  
**All: we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and  
forgive us, that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

*Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**Offertory Hymn: #478 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**

Almighty God, thy word is cast  
like seed into the ground;  
now let the dew of heaven descend,  
and righteous fruits abound.

Let not the foe of righteousness  
this holy seed remove,  
but give it root in every heart  
to bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares  
the rising plant destroy:  
but let it yield a hundredfold  
the fruits of peace and joy.

Oft as the precious seed is sown,  
thy quickening grace bestow,  
that all whose souls the truth receive,  
its saving power may know.

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

*Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: Eternal God,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ  
has promised to be with us until the end of time.  
Accept all we offer you this day,  
and renew us in his transfigured life;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **Eucharistic Prayer 2**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,  
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,  
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary  
and shared our human nature.  
He lived and died as one of us,  
to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will  
he stretched out his hands in suffering,  
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;  
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,  
and to give up his life on the cross,  
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,  
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.  
By his resurrection  
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of  
your name.

## **Sanctus**

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth  
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the  
highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the  
highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

*CP 732 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord. Music: Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937-). ©1971, 1977  
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**Celebrant:** Holy and gracious God,  
accept our praise,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
who on the night he was handed over  
to suffering and death,  
took bread and gave you thanks,  
saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you."  
  
In the same way he took the cup,  
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this,  
you do it in memory of me."  
  
Remembering, therefore,  
his death and resurrection,  
we offer you this bread and this cup,  
giving thanks that you have made us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.  
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit

upon the offering of your holy Church.

Gather into one  
all who share in these sacred mysteries,  
filling them with the Holy Spirit  
and confirming their faith in the truth,  
that together we may praise you and give you glory  
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,  
Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit  
in the holy Church, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer (Sung)**

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray and sing,

**All: Our Father in heaven hallowed be thy name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen, amen, amen.**

*Text: BAS page 211. Music: Sibbick arr. Lambert.*

### *Moment of Silence*

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*Bas 8-Easter Season*

Celebrant: Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**All: Now we are raised to new life.**

Celebrant: We were buried in your tomb.

**All: Now we share in your resurrection.**

Celebrant: Live in us, that we may live in you.

## THE COMMUNION

**Agnus Dei**

**All:** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*CP 745 Lamb of God.*

*Music: Becket Gerald Senchur (1946-).*

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**Celebrant:** The gifts of God for the People of God.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*for those who choose not to receive Communion, or are following the service online*)

**Celebrant:** Those wishing to do so may make their spiritual communion by joining in this prayer with me now:

**All:** **My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you, and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

**Communion Hymn:** #66 And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love

And now, O Father, mindful of the love  
That bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,  
and having with us him that pleads above,  
we here present, we here spread forth to thee,  
that only offering perfect in thine eyes,  
the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,  
and only look on us as found in him;

look not on our misusings of thy grace,  
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim;  
For lo! Between our sins and their reward,  
we set the passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,  
by this prevailing presence we appeal;  
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast!  
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal!  
from tainting mischief keep them pure and clear,  
and crown thy gifts with strength to persevere.

And so we come; O draw us to thy feet,  
most patient Savior, who canst love us still!  
and by this food, so awesome and so sweet,  
deliver us from every touch of ill:  
In thine own service make us glad and free,  
and grant us nevermore to part with thee.

*Text: William Bright (1824-1901), alt. CCLI Copyright Licence 11469691. CCLI Streaming Licence #21657598.*

**Anthem:** Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place.

*Words and Music by Lanny Wolfe; Choral Setting by Jack Schrader.  
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**Prayer after Communion**

*Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: Eternal Giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom.  
Confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Doxology & Blessing**

Celebrant: Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, For ever and ever. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** The peace of God which passes all understanding  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge  
and love of God and of his Son,  
Jesus Christ the Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
remain with you and the ones you love  
now and forevermore.

**All: Amen.**

### **Announcements**

**Closing Hymn:** #379 Rejoice, the Lord is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing  
and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
He took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail;  
He rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus, the judge, shall come  
And take his servants up  
to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

*CP 379 Rejoice, the Lord is King.  
Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: John Darwall (1731-1789).  
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## **Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia!

**All:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude:** Send Down Your Spirit.

*Words and Music by Will Hickl. (Based on the Recording by John Finch) CCLI Song # 7130893.  
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**St. Martin's Anglican Church**  
**The Rev. Shelly Pollard (she/her/hers), Incumbent**

Rector's Warden: Rob Mackay  
People's Warden: David Bevan  
Deputy Wardens: Art Slade & Quita Taylor  
Parish Administrator: Darlene Campbell  
Music Director: Dr Alexandra Weiss  
Sunday School Leader: Janis Lynch  
Youth Leader: Natasha Baird

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## **St. Martin's Weekly Announcements – 2026**

*\*New Announcement*

**Sunday School** - Sunday School is every Sunday during the 10:00 AM service. All are welcome!

### **Mid-Week Service**

Join us for our BCP mid-week service Wednesdays at 10:30am. Refreshments will follow. All are welcome. Friendly reminder, Rev Shelly's day off is every Friday.

### **\*Anointing**

We will be offering Anointing during the service this Sunday for those who wish to receive this sacrament.



**\*Messy Church Save the date!** Our upcoming Messy Church dates are:

**Sat May 30, 2026 10am-11:30am**

Come for a morning of fun for the whole family! This is an alternative service for busy families.

A fun morning for the whole family. Crafts, games, stories, music and snacks!

### **\*Spring Concert**

Join us after church on Sunday, May 31st, as the Social Committee welcomes the VIVA Singers to St. Martin's for a lively spring concert. Enjoy an uplifting afternoon of music, as well as a delicious luncheon generously provided by Viva.

Be sure to sign up in advance—sign-up sheets will be available on the welcome table.

### **Loonbank Update**

All monies donated to the *Loonbank* from January to June will be flying off to **Nankind**.

**Nankind** is a Canadian charity that supports children with cancer by providing fun, confidence-building experiences alongside emotional and practical support for their families. From creative activities to special events, Nankind helps kids just be kids again—even during the toughest times.

So thank you for feeding the Loonbank... your loonies and toonies are making a big difference!.

**Donations for St. Paul on-the-Hill Community Food Bank** - The Outreach Committee is asking for your help in filling the red wagon with your donations for the food bank. An Outreach volunteer will take the donations to St. Paul on-the-Hill. Grocery gift cards are always greatly appreciated. For a comprehensive list, please visit this link to [St. Paul's-on-the-Hill Food Bank](#).

### **St. Martin's Anglican Church**

**The Rev. Shelly Pollard (she/her/hers), Incumbent**

Rector's Warden: Rob Mackay

People's Warden: David Bevan

Deputy Wardens: Art Slade & Quita Taylor

Parish Administrator: Darlene Campbell

Music Director: Dr Alexandra Weiss

Sunday School Leader: Janis Lynch

Youth Leader: Natasha Baird

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